

Biography



J. Burton Eller

Director, Office of External Affairs
Farm Service Agency
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

Burton Eller is the Director of the Office of External Affairs for the Farm Service Agency (FSA). He is responsible for overseeing the daily operations of FSA's Executive Secretariat, Public Affairs, Communications and Legislative Liaison offices. He also assists the administrator in communicating the importance and benefits of FSA programs and services to producers and landowners across the country.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Eller served as president and CEO of the Textile Rental Services Association of America, an international company located in Hallandale, Florida, and Alexandria, Virginia. As CEO, Mr. Eller spearheaded the first-ever political grassroots campaign in tax issues for the organization and created an industry-wide environmental stewardship program to proactively assure waste water standards were met and surpassed. Serving as senior government relations counsel and special partner in the late 1990s for the Washington, D.C.-based law and lobbying firm of McLeod, Watkinson & Miller, Mr. Eller developed and implemented multifaceted strategies and delivery systems that benefited clients. Likewise, Mr. Eller had a long-standing career with the National Cattlemen's Association holding several positions including Senior Vice President of Government Affairs in Washington, D.C., and Executive Vice President/COO in Denver, Colorado. He also has several years of experience in governmental affairs.

Mr. Eller continues to operate the family farm he was raised on in southwest Virginia. He holds a master's degree in physiology and a bachelor's degree in animal science from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia. Mr. Eller and his family reside in Gainesville, Virginia.